

NATIONAL

The threat to older refugees as they wait

THE LIFESPAN of Palestinian refugees has been increasing, exposing more and more older refugees to the degenerative diseases which come with aging, reports the medical staff of UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. One of the services UNRWA provides is a community health-care programme.

Out of the almost two million Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA, about 100,000 are over 65 and there are more than 20,000 over 80 years of age.

UNRWA began providing medical care for the refugees in 1950 and gradually their lifespan has been increasing from between 49-52 years in the early 1950s to

about 60 years in the late 1970s. This is partly due to UNRWA's health care programme but improved socio-economic conditions have been a major contributor.

With aging, however, come the degenerative maladies. This is one reason why UNRWA has established a number of specialist clinics: 20 for diabetes, seven for

rheumatic diseases and three for cardio-vascular conditions.

Families care for aged

"AMONG THE Palestinians, family ties are very strong and no able-bodied person would dream of letting an aged parent fend for himself," says Ibrahim Abu Hamed, field welfare officer for UNRWA in Lebanon. But some older refugees have no one left or are too ill to be cared for by the family.

UNRWA tries to look after some of the aged by placing them in homes; others receive special welfare assistance. Last year UNRWA was able to place about 600 destitute aged persons in homes throughout its five fields of operation (Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip).

Young help the old

BESIDES FAMILY help for the elderly, a number of youth and school groups have assistance projects for the aged. This may include shopping, cleaning or doing minor repairs to a person's home.

The UNRWA Youth Activities Centre in Am'ari camp, north of occupied Jerusalem in the West Bank, is particularly active in helping the elderly. One recent beneficiary of this help was Mohammad Abu Mansour, an 85-year-old, bed-ridden wife. They live in a two-room house and have no family. They exist on welfare assistance from UNRWA and help from their neighbours.

Last winter part of the roof caved in under the weight of snow. The young men of the youth center went to merchants, collected materials and rebuilt the roof.

Aged in Lebanon

THE TOWN of Sidon lies in the south of Lebanon, in the middle of orange-groves and orchards. Not far from the town is the Palestine refugee camp of Mieh-Mieh, which normally has 2,600 inhabitants but now has 3,600 because many of the refugees displaced from further south-Tyre and its area have sought safety there from Israeli air and sea attacks.

The oldest inhabitant of the camp is Mrs. Alia Abed Saleh, 91.

"I was born in Tantura, in Haifa district, in 1890 and came to Mieh-Mieh in 1948", she said recently. "I have been living here since then, first with my husband and, after his death, with my two daughters. Both are married now. One of them lives in Syria and I see her very rarely. I don't even know exactly how many children she has. The other lives right here in the camp. She is a widow with six young children. I have kept my hut where I live alone. I do all the housework, cleaning, cooking and washing for myself."

On the other side of the camp, Mr. Khalil Said Al Khatib also lives alone in his hut. He is now 90, hard of hearing and frail. "Two of my daughters live in the camp, and each of them in turn brings my meals and cleans the room. My third daughter is married and lives in Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates. I was born in Ras Al Ahmar village in the Safad district of Palestine, where I had my farm. Those were the good days. Work on my farm was hard but I loved to till my own land."

UNRWA welfare workers visit the aged refugees both in their homes and in institutions. The refugees are eligible for assistance according to their particular needs. Special hardship cases receive extra food rations, a blanket every two years and a small financial grant of a few dollars yearly. The assistance is paltry because of UNRWA's chronic shortage of funds.

Home for the aged

CURRENTLY, 14 UNRWA-sponsored Palestinian refugees are in the Muslim Home for the Aged in Beirut. Over the years UNRWA has placed hundreds of refugees in the home. It was opened in 1954 and has space for 800 patients, half of them old people, the rest either mentally ill or incurably paralysed. The home has a full complement of physicians — including a geriatrics specialist.

One resident, Mr. Mohammad Serhan, aged 75, was born in Jaffa. "I was a merchant and had a flourishing business. But that seems terribly long ago. I have been here for six months. I feel fine and cannot complain about anything, except that my son and my three daughters do not visit me as often as I should like." For the last few months, Mr. Serhan has suffered

"senile confusion", as his doctors call it. He sometimes forgets what he is talking about and does not always answer questions.

The oldest of the Palestinian refugees in UNRWA's charge in Lebanon is 104 years old and blind. Mr. Nayer Hamadi was born in Sihmata village in the Acre district. "I was a farmer. I had seven boys and seven girls, but only four of my sons and four of my daughters are still alive. They are all married and I have many grandchildren and even great-grandchildren. These days I stay in bed and do not get up at all."

The Maronite Home

FOR THE last few years, Beirut has been a divided city. The "green line" separates the western (mainly Muslim) from the eastern (mainly Christian) sector. Before this division, refugees of any religion could be placed in any home, and the institutions are still ready to take old people, whether Christian or Muslim. But nowadays, Muslim refugees hesitate to live in the eastern part, because their relatives might be unable to visit them. Therefore UNRWA places only Christian refugees in the Maronite Old People's Home.

Half of the building has been damaged severely by shelling and the Sisters of St. Theresa of the Christ Child have had to close down the wing of the home where they used to nurse male patients.

Sister Isabelle Khouri, director of the Maronite Home, says, "Our patients used to work very hard in their homes, and they suffer from the different life they are leading here. But generally they get accustomed to it after a few months. Some of them have become good friends."

—UNRWA feature

ART REVIEW

Ammari: A self-taught artist with a professional finish

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Mazen Ammari, a civil engineer by training, is a self-taught artist who over the last six years has been painting, drawing, moulding and sculpting prolifically. His exhibition, which opened at the Haya Arts Centre on Tuesday, shows some of the work he produced during these years: and the tremendous diversity in style and media is an indication of the time, effort and conviction Ammari has put into his art in order to find his own means of expression.

After these years of experimentation Ammari now finds that he, as an artist, achieves the most satisfaction from carving in wood. His long slender sculptures with their sensuously smooth curves and highly polished, well crafted finish are amongst his best pieces. For an outsider looking at the breadth and scope of his work for the first time, it is perhaps easy to pick out the qualities, which recur consistently in all the different techniques, that would make sculpting take the direction in which the artist would and should have developed. Ammari, however, did not have the benefit of this hindsight, and without a teacher to guide him he had to explore, painstakingly, every avenue before finding his own identity as an artist.

Those recurring qualities, which one can pick out in the artist's earlier works, are the result of an attention to detail, keen observation and a neat and fastidious craftsmanship. The first two talents are most readily seen in his watercolours, painted with a certain naivety of bedouin women at their daily chores. The artist saw, and included, all minutiae that make up these peoples' lives — like the hand-woven magenta rug; like the singular green colour that they paint on the plaster of their mud brick walls whose cracked surface is then adorned with the graffiti of children; like the pile of firewood; and like the three-pronged rake. In this graphic work, Ammari also uses his gift of observation to make us see, as he himself did, different aspects of traditional Arab life.

In "Labourer's Breakfast" he depicts the working man's daily fare of two loaves of bread, a can of sardines and some hot green peppers; while in nearly all of his six drawings on display at the exhibition there is some reference to the strong Arabian tradition of smoking.

The artist's craftsmanship is demonstrated best in his relief drawings beaten into copper. The falcon, and the flute player with his *hama* (headdress) and jacket over his *dish-dashe* (flowing gown) are both very accurately made in this difficult three dimensional media.

What all these works lack, however, are movement, a certain dynamism and imagination in composition. Had the artist understood that these were his weaknesses, he would not have attempted abstraction, as this mode of expression is clearly not suited to an artist of his talents and limitations. Ammari should put down to experience his abstract work (as well as painting on black velvet and glass engraving) and should concentrate more on a style of painting that calls into full use his natural skills. This he manages to do in his oil of the "Road from Aqaba to Saudi Arabia" where he captures the jagged, rugged texture of the rocks exactly against the contrasting smoothness of the sand and the sky and where he gains movement from the sweeping curve of the road.

But most of all, Ammari should continue with his sculptural work as it is in this media that all his talents finally come together to form a cohesive whole.

The forms he could not imaginatively compose in two dimensions he can in three, where his pieces assume a delicate poise with a fine balance. In the long curves and twisting inner spirals he achieves the dynamism so sorely absent in his other rather static work while his careful craftsmanship gives the sculptures a professional finish.



Palestine refugees are growing older as they await in exile, and UNRWA has opened specialist clinics for degenerative diseases. Picture above shows a woman seeking reassurance from a UNRWA doctor in Deraa, Syria. Below: A friendly tug-of-war between generations in Gaza shows that family ties have remained strong among Palestine refugees as they await a solution for their problem.



Smoking may be going out of fashion, but it was a solace for this Palestine refugee patriarch in Jabalia in the Gaza Strip.

هكذا على العيش

Muslim scholars adopt important proposals on key Islamic issues

By Samira Kavar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Six research proposals on topics of great relevance and importance to the contemporary Islamic World were discussed and approved by some 100 Jordanian and international Muslim scholars at the first annual conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al-Bait Foundation), held between April 8-12 in Amman.

The first of these research projects will result in the publication of an Encyclopaedia of Islam in Arabic—a work which has long been eagerly anticipated by the Islamic World. The scholars participating in the conference recommended that the encyclopaedia should include between 18 and 22 volumes and be divided according to subject matter in eight categories comprising countries and locations; tribes, peoples and states; religions, canons and sects; arts, languages, and crafts; the sciences and notable persons. A general bibliography for all the volumes and a historical and geographical Atlas will also be appended. Preparation of the encyclopaedia material is expected to take five years, while printing and binding will take up another two years. The cumulative cost of producing such an encyclopaedia has been estimated at \$17 million.

Referring to previous European and Islamic attempts at producing Islamic encyclopaedias, the conference agreed that most existing encyclopaedias were of too wide a scope to give a comprehensive and specific presentation of Islamic civilisation. Other encyclopaedias bearing the specific epithet of "Islamic" had been mostly written by pretentious, prejudiced scholars, who misrepresented Islam, although others made valuable contributions through their research, the conferees said.

A second project proposal discussed during the conference was the compiling of a comprehensive bibliography of Arab Islamic manuscripts, which are scattered throughout the world. No accurate figures on the number of these manuscripts are available at present and detailed breakdowns categorising them according to their present locations are even more difficult to come by. Preliminary estimates made by the Al al-Bait Foundation indicated that there are 1.5 million such manuscripts although more may be discovered in the future. The bibliography will help preserve these valuable manuscripts from loss and extinction. It will be carried out in four stages, and each manuscript will be entered on four different bibliography cards according to a certain classification

system. The first stage alone will cost some \$750,000.

A third research project discussed at the conference in preparation for further extensive research by the Al al-Bait Foundation deals with the Treatment of non-Muslims in Islam. The scholars participating in the conference defined the object of the proposed study as the achievement of humane relations

Muslims remain loyal to their societies. The proposed research work on this topic will also examine the appearance of denunciations and sectarianism throughout the history of the Islamic World.

The completion of this project will require two to three years and will cost an estimated JD 50 thousand.

Financial management is a topic

appeared in Islam. Subjects to be researched in detail include banking and credit operations in Islam, considerations of land ownership in Islamic teachings and practices, Zakat and modern taxation systems, the authority to be enjoyed by the state in imposing taxes, the extent of state intervention in private and individual economic activity, the role of the state in achieving economic development and the state and financing of social services.

The Al al-Bait Foundation will also embark on a fifth piece of research on one of the principal tenets of government in Islam: Shura (taking council) in Islam, which is also a topic of modern political relevance. The scholars participating in the conference suggested that the topic be divided into several sections dealing with the concept of Shura in general as a basic tenet of government in Islam, the limits of Shura and the matters which come under its sphere, the process of Shura during the time of the Prophet and his immediate successors, practice of Shura in Islamic history, the position of Islam on the establishment of Shura institutions and the definition of its competencies and the qualifications of their members, their relation to modern parliamentary establishments and the position of Islam on including women in the process of Shura. About twenty five researchers will be needed to carry out the project, which will cost some JD 55 thousand and require three years for completion.

A sixth topic slated for future research work by the Al al-Bait Foundation is educational thought in Islam. Research will examine principles of education in Islam as they appear in the Koran and the Muslim Sunnah (the teachings of Mohammad).

It will also examine the history of education in Islam, the setting up of Islamic educational systems, the nature of the material to be studied, educational institutions and places of education, vocational education, educational thought, the philosophy and objectives of education and efforts to develop a contemporary Islamic educational philosophy. Problems facing contemporary education in general will also be examined.

At the request of Dr. Nasreddin Al Asad, President of the Al al-Bait Foundation, three more research project proposals were presented at the conference for future research efforts: These were the Codification of Islamic Fiqh (jurisprudence), a demographic, social and economic survey of Muslims throughout the world and values in an Islamic perspective.

Pakistani Minister of Religious Affairs Mohammad Abbasi has said that the Western Press has misrepresented "excesses" of punishment against offenders in Pakistan under Islamic laws and distorted Pakistani implementation of these laws. Mr. Abbasi, who participated in the first annual conference of the Al al-Bait Foundation, recently told the Jordan Times that accounts of brutal floggings of Pakistani criminals in the Western Press were grossly exaggerated. "Not a single case of flogging over an Islamic offence had taken place in Pakistan since Islamisation of laws began in 1977," he said. Flogging had occurred for "extremely serious" non-Islamic offences such as rape and plotting against the state, he added. Even so, floggings had been carried out in a manner designed to avoid gross physical harm to the criminal, and accounts of floggings on bare skin were unfounded. Pakistan, he said, would seek to pass on its experience of Islamising its laws to other Islamic countries participating in the conference and to learn from the experiences of these countries as well.

Dr. Akmal Al Dein Ouglou, Head of the Research Section at the Turkish Yeldiz Serai, who presented a paper on the proposed Encyclopaedia of Islam, told the Jordan Times that previous European encyclopaedias on the subject could be considered in two categories. The first represented an edict which began to appear at the end of the Nineteenth Century and ended in the 1940's. This edition was full of bias against Islam and was conditioned by European colonialist tendencies which were prevalent at the time, he said. The second edition began to appear in the mid 1950's and was less biased due to the contribution of some Muslim scholars. The need for a comprehensive Encyclopaedia of Islam in Arabic was apparent, he said.

Mr. Abdul Hadi Taxi, member of the Royal Moroccan Academy, told the Jordan Times that the formation of the Academy and the Al al-Bait Foundation had come at a time when attempts at theft and piracy against Islamic heritage were taking place. Parties that had no relation to Islam whatsoever, particularly Israel, were trying to claim that facets of Islamic heritage and civilisation belong to them. The presence of Academic institutions such as Al al-Bait Foundation and the Moroccan Royal Academy to carry out proper Islamic research would protect Islamic civilisation from plagiarism.

Samira Kavar

between Muslims and non-Muslims in Islamic societies. The scholars agreed that this called for a mutual understanding by both Muslims and non-Muslims of their responsibilities and privileges. Such an understanding, they stressed, would make for an integrated and cohesive Islamic society. They recommended that the proposed study not concentrate solely on academic matters, but also deal with practical, every-day matters pertaining to contemporary Islamic societies. They also called for giving prominence to Islamic teachings concerning the treatment of non-Muslims and the abolishment of discrimination against non-Muslims, since Islamic teachings prohibit such discrimination as long as non-

that raises great controversy and of relevance to the contemporary Islamic World as it strives to sidestep the negative economic aspects of both capitalism and communism and achieve a "happy medium" in accordance with Islamic laws. This will be the topic of a fourth piece of research work to be carried out by Al al-Bait Foundation over the next three years at a cost of JD 50 thousand. The scope of research in this field, as outlined by the conferees, is very large. It includes Koranic references to financial management, practices of Islamic Caliphs and teachings of Islamic theologians. It also touches on the state's revenues and expenditures, public financial administration and the idea of a general state budget as it

Belgian minister concludes favourable talks in Jordan

By A.B. Kassey
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Belgium and Jordan are expected to strengthen trade ties between them in the near future, a visiting Belgian minister told the Jordan Times on Wednesday.

Mr. Paul Akkermans, minister of trade for small and medium-size industries for the Flemish reg-

ion has been on a visit to Jordan as an envoy of President Jees of the Flemish Executive Bureau for the purpose of developing trade links between the two countries.

Mr. Akkermans described talks he held at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and at the Amman Chamber of Commerce, as very favourable.

"This has been an exploratory visit and it is too early to talk about

results," said Mr. Akkermans. But a team of Jordanian industrialists will pay a visit to Belgium next October to explore further areas of strengthening trade between the two countries, he added.

It is expected that Belgium will export furniture, carpets, and other household items to Jordan in return for Jordanian potash and fertilisers, the minister said.

"But Jordan stands to hold a unique position in the world of tourism if more tourist facilities were available at and around Petra," noted the minister who expected cooperation between the two countries in developing Petra during Jordan's present five-year plan. This would lead to a substantial rise in the level of, and

income from tourism for Jordan," Mr. Akkermans said. "Petra is the gold finger of Jordan," he declared.

Mr. Akkermans and his accompanying delegation leave for home on Thursday.



Downtown Amman shops and offices closed Wednesday in observance of the general strike which Jordan staged against the Israeli attack on Haram Al Sharif in Jerusalem on Sunday (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Solidarity strike in Jordan echoes mood of the people

By Suzanne Zu'mut-Black
and Nujoud Goussous
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — On the surface, it looked like any other holiday. Shops were closed, students, workers and employees stayed at home and there was hardly any traffic on the streets.

But Wednesday was different from any other day-off. It was the day when the whole of Jordan, together with other Arab and Muslim countries, staged a strike in solidarity with the Palestinians under Israeli occupation and in protest against the Israeli attack Sunday on Al Haram Al Sharif in Jerusalem.

The strike, which came in response to a call by King Khaled of Saudi Arabia, affected the country on all levels.

"It was comprehensive," National Consultative Council (NCC) member Adawia Alami told the Jordan Times, adding: "In our neighbourhood, nobody was even walking on the streets, no buses, no cars not even children," she said. Dr. Alami commended the strike as an "excellent idea, especially as a show of solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are suffering in the occupied territories. This is the least we can do to share our feelings with them."

Airport stops

The movement at Amman Airport came to a complete halt from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. According to Director of Amman Airport Ibrahim Abdeh there was a complete reshuffle in airline schedules. "This will cause many passengers to miss connecting flights in Europe and they will have to stay elsewhere overnight," he told the Jordan Times. Mr. Abdeh also pointed out that (the Royal Jordanian Airline) Alia's planes from the Gulf made the journey back to Amman before 5 a.m. However, Department of Civil Aviation had not-

ified all affected airports and airlines of the closure of Amman Airport, he added.

Industry strikes

There also was a complete stoppage on the industrial level. "The strike stopped everything," said Director of Amman Chamber of Commerce Ali Dajani. "It was a show of solidarity. It was not a day of pleasure but rather a day of meditation. Everybody stayed at home," he said.

To Mr. Dajani, the strike was an "expression of consensus against the savage and indiscriminate attack on Al Haram Al Sharif. The strike is a constructive endeavour to call world attention to the desecration of the holy places and the complete disregard and disrespect of Islamic feelings and beliefs."

Mr. Dajani said "It was natural that the industrial sector responded wholeheartedly to the call for the strike, and to express association with all the Arab and Islamic countries which observed this strike."

'Not a holiday'

Bishop Elia Khouri, head of the Church of the Redeemer in

Amman, said "the Israeli soldier's attack on Al Aqsa is not an isolated incident, and Israel cannot be absolved of involvement in this criminal act". The bishop called on all Arabs and Muslims to embark on a new course of action to regain their rights, "not by words and official meetings but by strong and effective moves".

Mr. Suleiman Al Hadidi, president of the Bar Association, said "what the Arab and Islamic worlds did by this strike, against the Zionist and their criminal assassinations at the Al Aqsa Mosque and the other Islamic places in the West Bank, is the right thing in my opinion. Yet what we did is not enough, we need to show all countries and especially the United States that we are right."

Dr. Nabih Mu'annar, president of the Medical Association, said the protest could be done in a different way. "We, doctors in the association, appeal to everybody to donate one day's income towards supporting the inhabitants of the West Bank instead of just sitting at home. However, the aim of the strike in my opinion is not to stop work but to awake the Arab people to feel with their brothers in the occupied territories."

Foreigners sympathise

When asked about their opinions of Wednesday's show of solidarity with inhabitants of the occupied territories against Israeli practices there, foreigners residing in Jordan reacted with sympathetic (albeit mixed) feelings.

One Western diplomat who asked not to be identified described the strike as "awesomely impressive; and a solid, grim and firm demonstration" of the depth of people's feeling. "Wednesday's weather echoed the mood of Jordan," he said.

A U.N.-employed engineer said the widespread protest "was a good idea; and the nice thing about it is that it has gone beyond the Arab World to include Islamic peoples as well." He added that the strike should have been accompanied with economic actions against the United States. "to hit where it hurts."

But an American citizen living in the country doubted the protest could have an impact on Western public opinion. "The West will not care too much," he said. "Arabs have got to use stronger means which they possess," he added.

Randa Habib's CORNER

TALKATIVE OR SUPERSTITIOUS?

This dentist friend of mine claims that he has been witness to many strange stories. Here is one of them:

A lady came for her dental appointment along with her husband who, she says, came to comfort her. From the first moment the dentist could see that she was the Chatter box, bossy, nagging, gossiping type, and that the husband was the yes-dear, anything-you-say-dear.

The session starts. Every time the doctor attempted to inspect the teeth of his patient she started to scream and to express with frantic gesticulations her fear of dentists. The dentist understandably could not work in peace opened her mouth and sprayed something inside. A few seconds later the lady mumbled with difficulty: "It is horrible, doctor my tongue is so heavy, I can barely talk." The dentist, patiently explained: "This is very normal don't panic. It is an anaesthetic. Anyway very soon you will not be able to talk at all." The session continued, now in blissful silence ... On his way out the husband with a gleeful look whispered to the dentist: "Doctor, I want to buy this spray from you. How much?"

"I am not superstitious, anyway it is stupid to be superstitious" said a lady with contempt during a coffee morning. I looked at her with interest waiting for the rest of this statement. She added: "I could never understand those people who believe in the evil eye. Imagine that there are some people who do not travel on the 13th day of a month, who come down from their beds on the right foot and to whom breaking a mirror means 7 years of unhappiness."

"For me all this is stupid; after all we live in the 20th century, the age of technology..."

This reminded me that her son is a student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.) in the USA and I seized this opportunity to inquire after him. "Issam," she told me, "is O.K. He is the first in his class. He never gave me any troubles... Touch Wood."

Karak water supply to be developed

AMMAN (Petra) — The Water Supply Corporation (WSC) has embarked on a project for supplying some 80,000 people inhabiting several villages in Karak Governorate with water, according to WSC Director General Sa'id Bino. He said apart from Karak, the village of Qatraneh and Tafleh town, the villages to benefit from the project will receive water from the Sultani Al Ghuweir Spring.

The project entails the construction of 31,500 kilometre length of pipes from the spring to these villages, the construction of a 200 cubic metre water tower at Sultani and another one of 100 cubic metre capacity at Ghuweir, as well as the installation of 500 kilowatt generators and buildings. The total cost of the whole project, due to be completed in September is estimated to be JD 478,366, he said.

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Mitterrand in Tokyo to further ties with Japan

TOKYO (A.P.) — French President Francois Mitterrand relaxed in a state guesthouse, after arriving here Wednesday, but his aides were already at work trying to correct a \$1 billion trade deficit.

The first French head of state to visit Japan intends to discuss economic problems with the Japanese "unaggressively," during his five-day stay here, his spokesman Michel Vauzelle said before Mr. Mitterrand's departure from Paris.

He said Mr. Mitterrand's wish was not to reproach Japan for its dynamic trade effort but to discuss some "rules of the game" to avoid Western protectionism in the face of Japan's success.

At about the same time Mr. Mitterrand and his party, including wife Danielle, arrived by a special flight, Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, an earlier arrival, met with his Japanese counterpart Yoshio Sakuruchi to discuss the trade deficit which, Mr. Cheysson said, is a major political problem in France.

He urged Japan to buy more French products such as Airbus, helicopters, enriched uranium, ferro-nickels, brandy, processed cheese and apples.

Mr. Sakuruchi agreed with Mr. Cheysson, ministry officials said, and pledged his ministry will ask Japanese airlines to buy more Airbus developed by Airbus industries, a Spanish, French, West German and British consortium.

\$250m Kuwaiti loan to Yugoslavia

BELGRADE (R) — Kuwait has granted a \$250 million seven-year financial credit to Yugoslavia, the National news agency Tanjug reported.

The credit agreement, between the Yugoslav National Bank and three Kuwaiti financial institutions led by the Kuwaiti Trade and Investment Corporation, was signed in Kuwait Monday, Tanjug said.

The repayment of the credit will start in three years time, the agency said without giving any further details.

Sudan gets \$14m OPEC loan

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese Finance Minister Ibrahim Moneim Mansour said Monday the OPEC fund for international development will extend a \$14 million loan to Sudan in balance of payments support, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported.

It said the agreement with the OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) fund was signed in Vienna last week.

Gold rises above \$360 an ounce

LONDON (A.P.) — Gold bullion rose above \$360 an ounce for the first time in two weeks early Wednesday, boosted by the Falkland Islands crisis and tension in the Middle East.

The U.S. dollar was relatively stable against European currencies, showing marginal movement in both directions from Tuesday's close. The exception was the Swiss franc, which gained considerable ground against the American currency.

In London, gold opened at \$361.50 a troy ounce, compared with \$356.875 Tuesday night. Later, London's five main bullion dealers fixed an indicative price of \$364.75 an ounce for the metal. It was the first time gold hit the \$360 barrier since March 1, when it traded at \$360.25.

In Zurich, Europe's main bullion centre, gold opened at \$363.50 an ounce and quickly rose to \$364.50. On Tuesday, the metal closed at \$353.50.

The increase in price began overnight in Hong Kong, where the metal rose by \$10.26 to close at \$365.17.

In London, silver bullion was quoted in early trading at \$7.625 a troy ounce, compared with \$7.515 late Tuesday.

The British pound, rocked into decline when the Falklands crisis erupted April 2, continued to hold its ground after Tuesday's improvement. It was quoted at \$1.7675 in London, compared with Tuesday's close of \$1.7645.

Poland owes France \$2.5b

PARIS (A.P.) — Poland's indebtedness to France currently stands at about 16 billion francs (\$2.5 billion), of which officially guaranteed debt represents close to 11 billion francs (\$1.7 billion), according to French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson.

The communist bloc country's overall indebtedness to the West has been estimated at \$25.5 billion.

In a reply to a written parliamentary question, Mr. Cheysson said Poland's ability to meet its financial obligations to Western countries in the coming years depends on the desire of Polish authorities to carry out fundamental economic reforms and to improve labour productivity.

This will require the resumption of an "authentic dialogue" between the Polish government and labour representatives, the French minister said.

Mr. Cheysson said the increasing indebtedness of communist bloc countries is a problem western governments are following with increased vigilance in view of the amounts owed by some of these nations.

Talks among Poland's western creditors on rescheduling official debt falling due this year have been suspended since January following the military crackdown in Poland and will not resume until there is evidence that the repression is being lifted.

Zaanouni appointed as UNDP director

NEW YORK (UNDP) — Mustapha Zaanouni, former Minister for Planning in the government of Tunisia, has been appointed assistant administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and director of its regional Bureau for Arab States. He brings to his new UNDP position wide-ranging experience in international finance and investment for development, national and sectoral development planning, agricultural economics, and project preparation and supervision. Mr. Zaanouni is succeeding Mr. Salah Al Shaikhly, of Iraq, who resigned from that position in May 1981.

In addition to holding a series of senior executive positions with his government, Mr. Zaanouni represented Tunisia for five years on the "Group of Ten" developing countries in the IMF/IBRD joint committee concerned with increasing the transfer of financial resources to developing countries. He has also served as planner, adviser and evaluator for the Food

and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), for the UNDP, and for the Organisation of Islamic Conference. He has direct working experience in development fields in five of the Arab states the bureau serves, as well as in six developing countries in other regions.

19 Arab countries are served by the Bureau for Arab States: Algeria, Bahrain, Democratic Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen Arab Republic.

The bureau was established in 1978 following a decision by the UNDP governing council. Countries from the region which will serve on UNDP's 48-nation governing council during 1982 are Kuwait, Tunisia and Yemen Arab Republic.

UNDP/Arab country co-operation For the period 1982-1986.

UNDP will allocate \$364.3 million to the national projects of 17 countries covered by the bureau. (Kuwait and Qatar have voluntarily relinquished grant assistance from UNDP, although they continue to obtain technical assistance on a cost-reimbursement basis, and to participate in regional programmes).

The UNDP funds supplement the Arab countries' own contributions to projects in cash and in kind, and the "cost-sharing" contributions in convertible currency by several countries in the region to cover international project costs not met from UNDP allocations. For 1982-86, at least \$220 million in such cost-sharing is anticipated in the Arab region.

Programmes carried out under UNDP auspices and executed by United Nations specialised agencies are designed to help Arab countries meet priority needs. These countries have requested assistance in such areas as increasing food production, dev-

elopment water resources, providing primary health care and low-cost housing, integrated rural development, manpower development and training, promotion of science and technology, improvement of civil aviation, enhancing planning capabilities, environmental protection, strengthening national and regional institutions, and promoting the participation of women in development activities.

In addition, UNDP supports regional projects linking two or more Arab countries in economic and technical co-operation activities designed for their mutual benefit. These include such activities as development of Red Sea and Gulf of Aden fishery potentials, water management, innovation in education, training of technical personnel in various areas, telecommunications, etc. A new regional programme for the 1982-86 period is under preparation in consultation with the concerned governments.

— UNDP feature

Mobil to pull out of Libya

NEW YORK (A.P.) — Mobil Corp., the second-largest U.S. oil company is negotiating to pull out of Libya, the Wall Street Journal said Tuesday.

Exxon, the largest, withdrew from Libya last November.

The Journal said that according to industry sources, Mobil executives were in Libya for talks with Libyan authorities on conditions for withdrawal. Mobil itself had "nothing to say on the subject," the Journal added.

Mobil has a joint production venture in which the Libyan government has a 51 per cent share. Veba AG of West Germany 15 per cent, and Mobil Corp. 43.5 per cent. The Journal said that "the joint venture last year produced 100,000 barrels of crude oil a day, but output fell sharply by the end of the year to about 25,000 barrels a day because of the high price of Libyan oil and the oil glut Mobil's take of Libyan oil dwindled and the company's failure to obtain price concessions from the Libyans left little hope of profitability."

Recession hits Filipino mining industry badly

By Marilyn Odchimar

Reuter

MANILA — Low prices due to the world recession are putting the mining industry of the Philippines, one of the Third World's major metal producers, through its toughest squeeze since the end of the Second World War.

The industry, a major foreign exchange earner, saw three firms shut down at the end of last year as a slide in world copper prices continued unabated.

Executives of other mining companies in the Philippines, the world's seventh largest copper producer, say they fear the losses will go on if the costs of producing the metal stay higher than the price they get for it. One mining executive whose firm produces gold, copper and silver said the outlook was "the bleakest for the industry since 1946."

A drop in demand for copper, largely due to the downturn in activity in major industrialised nations, has sent the metal's spot price on the London metal exchange down from around \$1.30 a pound to below 80 cents a pound

in two years. Philippine production of gold also faces problems because of the halving of the price over the past two years. The country is the fifth largest world gold producer. At current metal prices only two Philippine firms, Philex Mining and Benguet Corporation, stand to make profits this year, and they would be slight, mining officials say.

One executive, who asked not to be named, said mining experts had warned the government over 18 months ago that the outlook for the copper industry was bleak and had recommended measures to meet an impending crisis.

But the government increased a tax on production of the metal which hit mining companies hard because of copper's low selling price on international markets.

Nor is the industry enthusiastic about a 200 million peso (24 million) stabilisation fund set up by the government earlier this year to protect copper producers which has tough conditions for firms borrowing from it.

"What the industry would like is a reduction in taxes," another mining executive said, while a

chamber of mines official said members wanted the fund to be available not just for copper but also for other metals such as gold, nickel and chrome.

The depression in prices producing venture, Marco, into the red last year for the first time after 11 years of profits.

The company's vice-president for operations said it might have to close its mine if the price of copper fell much further.

Philippine output of copper dropped 2.1 per cent last year in line with cutbacks in other producer countries fighting to overcome world overcapacity.

Meanwhile, low international prices of gold have made the country's leading producer of the metal, Benguet, trim back its budget by cutting spending on exploration and deferring capital projects.

With the gold price having fallen from \$875 to 350 an ounce in a little over two years, Benguet's earnings from gold mining last year suffered an 88 per cent drop to 16.7 million pesos (\$2 million), and its total earnings fell 24 per cent.

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SPORTS

Rebel English cricketer dropped as vice-captain of Middlesex

LONDON (A.P.) — John Emburey, one of the 15 rebel English cricketers who toured South Africa earlier this year, has been dropped as vice-captain by his county team Middlesex.

Emburey, a 29-year-old spinner, has been replaced by his England colleague Mike Gatting, who turned down offers to play on the controversial tour.

Emburey did not complete the tour after breaking a thumb in one of the early matches, but still was named by the Test and County Cricket Board.

He was appointed vice-captain to Mike Brearley last year.

Middlesex secretary Alan Wright said Wednesday: "The committee considered it would be in Middlesex's best interests from Emburey to be relieved of the

vice-captaincy for this season.

"Middlesex accept that Emburey was not in breach of contract and that, as a free individual, he was fully entitled to go to South Africa. However, the committee were concerned that they had not been advised by Emburey prior to his departure, which was contrary to the spirit of Middlesex policy and procedure."

Skiing - 'worst plague' to have stricken Switzerland this century

DAVOS, Switzerland (A.P.) — Every year at this time, spring uncovers the ugly face of skiing. As the snow melts away, bottles, pieces of hindering empty cans and even entire ski poles are found

Pecci, Ycaza clear round 1 of WCT meet

HOUSTON, Texas (A.P.) — Fifth-seeded Victor Pecci of Paraguay and Ricardo Ycaza of Ecuador each came from behind to win their first round matches at the \$300,000 World Championship Tennis (WCT) tournament.

Pecci lost the first set but came back to defeat South Africa's Kevin Curren 5-7, 6-2, 7-6, while Ycaza followed a similar route before taking a 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over hometown favorite Tony Giammalva.

Giammalva, part of a Houston-based tennis family, had the partisan crowd cheering when he stunned Ycaza in the first set. But Giammalva faded in the first game of the second set and by the end of the second set, the crowd was departing.

Top-seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia meets Nick Saviano of the United States in a first round match while second-seeded Jose-Luis Clerc of Argentina opens against Giammalva's younger brother Sammy, 19.

Karpov heads chess tourney

LONDON (R) — World champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union heads the list of contestants in the Hillips and Drew Grandmaster Tournament opening in London Thursday which promises to be one of the top chess events this year.

The 14 competitors also include ex-champion Oris Spassy and Dutehman Ja Timman, the world number two.

Chip Hooper defeats Ilie Nastase

LOS ANGELES (A.P.) — Seventh seed Chip Hooper defeated Ilie Nastase, but second seed Johan Kriek lost Bruce Manson during the second day of play Tuesday in the \$200,000 Pacific Southwest Tennis Tournament.

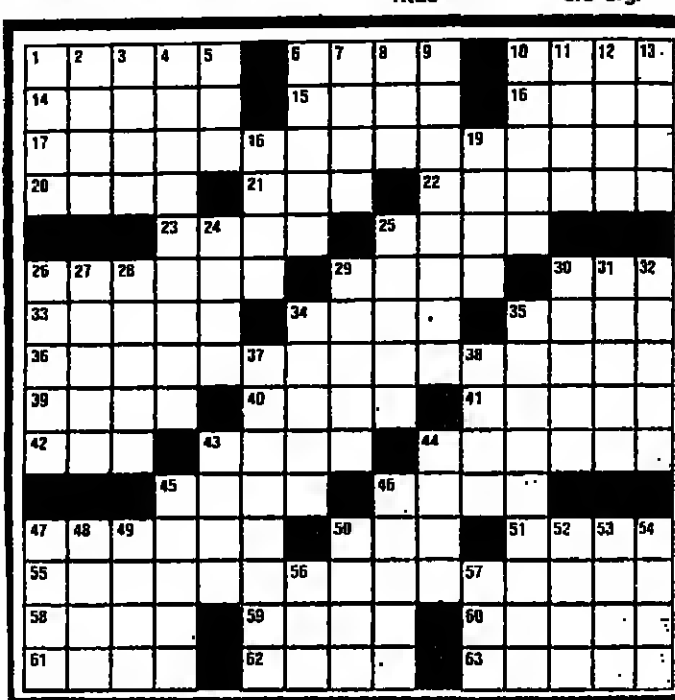
Hooper of the United States used his powerful serve to defeat the 35-year-old Romanian-born Nastase, 7-6, 6-4. It was the first time the two had played.

Manson of the United States defeated Kriek of South Africa 6-7, 6-2, 6-4. Kriek double faulted 12 times.

Manson was a quarterfinalist at the U.S. Open last year, losing to Vitas Gerulaitis, who dropped out of this tournament with the flu. In other matches, Martin Davis defeated Brian Gottfried, 6-3, 7-6, Lloyd Bourne defeated Smith, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6, Victor Amaya defeated Hank Pfister, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, and Sandy May defeated Matt Doyle 6-3, 6-0.

THE Daily Crossword By Peter Fannessy

ACROSS	29 Socials	50 Goal	19 War god
1 Tense and clear	30 Hit hard	51 Contrary girl	24 Expel
6 Record	33 Braka parts	55 Breaks up indelibly	25 Vaccina
10 Vestments	34 Legal wrong	58 Brand	26 Turkish money
14 Caucasoid people of Japan	35 Harmless	59 Consumes	27 Flume
15 March 15	36 Presents topic for vote	60 Vertical lake	28 Complete
17 Thin	39 Coup d'	61 Mountain	29 Lady's hat
18 Rules expert	40 Astronaut	62 Wagon	30 Rear
20 Cut	41 Incendi- arism	63 Very, musically	31 Being done
21 Metal	42 Bro. or unc.	DOWN	32 Cent
22 Mangled	43 Paris fashion magazine	1 Goes one better	34 Narrates
23 Unit of length	44 Glazed	2 Iranian currency unit	35 Page-wide headlines
25 Hooded merganser	45 Bible book	3 Cross letters	37 Leashed
26 Site of an old naval battle	46 Bristle	4 Most sweltering meas.	38 Tar
	47 Small hackney	6 Shy	39 Near beige
		7 Yemen port	40 Keel of trailer
		8 Cob's mate	41 Closed
		9 Tentative opinion	42 Hollywood hound
		10 Pointer	43 Rastaf
		11 Rastaf	44 Costa
		12 Highland hillside	45 Snowman
		13 Dispatch	46 Not wider abbr.
		18 Postulate of Democritus	47 US teach- ers' org.



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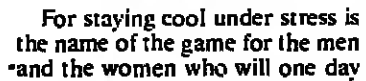
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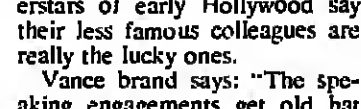
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Those magnificent men and their space machines



Mike Collins, who was also on

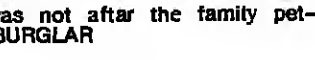
nine in 1984 building up to 19 in 1986 and 50 a year from 1987 onwards -- their chances of get-



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